

My comments pertain to the pending decision regarding Morse code testing. I am a licensed operator, and have been for many years.

While I do agree that there should be some HF voice privileges and digital mode privileges given to "no-code" licensees, I feel it is important to keep CW alive and use it as an incentive for the higher class licenses...or, at minimum, for the Extra Class License. No-code licensees should be encouraged to learn and use code, and the CW band segments, but not on a required basis. Extra Class licensees should be tested on code proficiency at a minimum of 13 wpm (my preference is 20 wpm). By demonstrating this proficiency, Extra Class licensees would continue to gain access to exclusive CW band segments.

I also feel strongly that the theory tests should be made more technical, and aligned to more modern day technology...such as the digital modes, etc. In addition, I feel that the current ruling allowing "instant re-test" following a failed test should be eliminated. An applicant should have to wait some minimum period, say 30 days, before re-testing. Thanks for allowing my comments.

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